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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-02 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-08 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 INRE-00
SSO-00 /033 W
----------002101 251230Z /14
O R 251103Z JAN 78
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6108
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 0193

DEPT PLS PASS EUR/CE FOR JOHNSON; BRUSSELS FOR FAA

E O 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PGOV EAIR WB CY UK US
SUBJ: MAINTENANCE OF CYPRUS (ERCAN) BASED AEROAMERICA AIRCRAFT IN
BERLIN

REF: BONN 1265

SUMMARY:MISSION UNDERSTANDS THAT MAINTENANCE FLIGHT TO BERLIN
(REFTEL) IS PROPOSED FOR JANUARY 26; AFTER REPAIRS IN BERLIN
ON THE AIRCRAFT SERVING ERCAN (ABOUT 10 TO 14 DAYS), IT WOULD
BE RETURNED TO SERVE ITS NORMAL CYPRUS-TURKEY ROUTE. AERO-
AMERICA BERLIN GENERAL MANAGER MATHUS HAS SPOKEN WITH MISSION
OFFICER AND UNDERSTANDS THERE MAY BE SOME DELAY IN DECIDING
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ON APPLICATION. MISSION SEES NO FUNDAMENTAL BERLIN POLICY
OBJECTIONS TO PERMITTING FLIGHT, GIVEN CERTAIN ASSURANCES.
END SUMMARY

1. ACCORDING TO MATHUS,PLAN WAS TO HAVE AEROAMERICA
B 720 (AIRCRAFT NUMBER 731), WHICH FLIES BETWEEN
CYPRUS AND TURKISH MAINLAND, FLY DIRECTLY FROM ISTANBUL

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TO BERLIN FOR HEAVY MAINTENANCE AT FACILITIES HERE.
ALTHOUGH INDICATING REPAIRS COULD CONCEIVABLY BE DONE
ELSEWHERE, MATHUS INDICATED THAT WOULD MAKE LITTLE SENSE
BECAUSE AEROAMERICA HAS ENGINES IN BERLIN AND AMONG
OTHER THINGS AN ENGINE CHANGE IS REQUIRED.
AT THE SAME TIME, AEROAMERICA WOULD SEND ITS AIRCRAFT
NUMBER 733 NOW FLYING BERLIN TO ISTANBUL VIA
NUERNBERG TO TAKE OVER CYPRUS-TURKISH ROUTE TEMPORARILY.
AFTER REPAIRS COMPLETED ON NUMBER 731, IT WOULD RETURN TO ISTANBUL
AND 733 WOULD BE BROUGHT BACK TO RESUME OPERATION IN BERLIN.

2. AIRCRAFT IN QUESTION ARE U.S.-REGISTERED, OWNED,
AND CREWED. THEY WOULD BE UNDER OPERATIONAL CONTROL
OF AEROAMERICA ON FLIGHTS TO AND FROM BERLIN. AS
AEROAMERICA PLANS IT, THE VISIBLE MARKINGS ON PLANE
731 NOW LEASED TO CYPRUS-TURKISH AIRWAYS (CTA) WOULD
BE SPRAY-PAINTED OUT, BUT THERE WOULD BE U.S. FLAG
ON TAIL. HENCE, PLAN WOULD NOT BE VISIBLY RECOGNIZABLE
AS CYPRUS-TURKISH AIRWAYS AIRCRAFT. THE TAIL NUMBER AND CALL SIGN
WOULD FALL WITHIN THE SERIES (730'S), ALTHOUGH 731 HAS NEVER
FLOWN IN BERLIN SERVICE.

3. MISSION SEES NO LEGAL FOUR-POWER OBJECTIONS TO
AEROAMERICA'S BRINING THE AIRCRAFT IT HAS WET-LEASED
TO CTA TO BERLIN FOR MAINTENANCE. THE 1946 FLIGHT
RULES DO NOT SPECIFY FOR WHAT PURPOSE ALLIES MAY FLY THEIR AIR-
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CRAFT TO AND FROM BERLIN, AND IT HAS BEEN ALLIED POSITION THAT
THERE ARE NO RESTRICTIONS WHICH MAY BE IMPOSED. MAINTENANCE OF
AIRCRAFT FLEET IS OBVIOUSLY AN ESSENTIAL FUNCTION WHICH, THOUGH IT
MAY NOT SERVE AIRCRAFT IN USE AT THE MOMENT IN BERLIN, IS
CERTAINLY A PERFECTLY NORMAL AND PROPER ONE.

4. WE BELIEVE THAT SOVIETS HAVE LITTLE CALL TO PROTEST THIS
FLIGHT ALTHOUGH IT MIGHT BE PREFERABLE FOR AIRCRAFT TO CARRY AT
LEAST ONE "AERO-AMERICA" MARKING IF POSSIBLE. US CAA MAY WISH TO
CONSIDER IMPOSING THIS REQUIREMENT ON AERO-AMERICA BEFORE APPROVING
FLIGHT. HOWEVER, AERO-AMERICA'S CALL SIGN "ECHO OSKAR" IS KNOWN TO
SOVIETS AND FLIGHT CARD TO BE PASSED IN BASC WOULD CARRY
THAT CALL SIGN.

5. MISSION THEREFORE RECOMMENDS FLIGHT CLEARANCE FOR THESE AERO-
AMERICA CRAFT ESPECIALLY IF THEY HAVE AEROAMERICA MARKINGS IN
BERLIN AND COMING TO AND FROM BERLIN.

6. ABOVE RECOMMENDATION IS MADE WITHOUT CONSIDERATION OF CYPRUS
POLITICAL ISSUE INVOLVED IS USE OF ERCAN AIRPORT. THIS MISSION
IS OBVIOUSLY NOT COMPETENT TO JUDGE THAT QUESTION, BUT FROM OUR
VANTAGE POINT HERE IT WOULD NOT SEEM TO AFFECT THE QUESTION OF

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WHETHER THIS AIRCRAFT SHOULD BE PERMITTED TO COME TO BERLIN FOR
REPAIRS.GEORGE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: AIRCRAFT, AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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